

Indianapolis, Indiana, he is a former scholar from Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, where he graduated Summa Cum laude. As described by his congregants, Pastor Hampton is a dynamic speaker who can reach and encourage persons of all ages. As indicated by his receipt of numerous awards, including the Martin Luther King Human Rights Award, Pastor Hampton demonstrates immense dedication and service to his congregants and the Brooklyn community. He has also been acknowledged by the Center of Leadership Development for his outstanding leadership skills.

Pastor Hampton is fortunate to have a warm-hearted congregation composed of avid Baptists. With his congregants' strong faith and his infallible ability to deliver inspiring messages, Pastor Hampton has encouraged members of Bethany Baptist to continue in their faith and service to their community, which establishes Bethany Baptist as an invaluable community resource. As such, the commitments of Bethany Baptist Church and its congregants transcend their faith and is deserving of due recognition.

Further, the members of Bethany Baptist Church demonstrate devotion to their faith, which is visible in their undying commitment to remaining active members of the church for over 50 years. In an effort to commemorate their contributions, the church has planned "Golden Circle Day," which is dedicated to honoring those who are a part of the esteemed "Golden Circle." This is a tradition that many look forward to because it offers a chance to pay homage to members of the Bethany Baptist Church family. In keeping with the traditions, there will be a host of special services slated for June 8, 2008 at Bethany Baptist Church, located at 460 Marcus Garvey Boulevard in Brooklyn, New York.

The following members are duly recognized as members of Bethany Baptist Church's "Golden Circle."

Marian Alexander; Annie Anderson; Charles Allen; Margaret Allen; Norma Applewhite; Virgie Baldwin; Bettie Barbour; Louise Barton; Linda Bascombe; and Patricia Belk.

Gaither Bellamy; Josephine Blaizes; Daisy L. Bryant; Essie M. Brooks; Helen Brown; Mabel Burroughs; Phyllis M. Bynum; Mary Carpenter; and Edith L. Carson.

Pearl Clarke; Wilbert Clarke; Adeline Clinton; Darnley Crichtlow; Barbara D. Crosby; Lynda F. Dandridge; Louise Daniels; Gladys C. Drake; Willie Edmond; and Ozie Edmond.

Gloria Ellis; Tommy Felton; Helen Fierce; Ethel M. Folk; Frances Ford; Frances Frayer; Maurice L. Fredericks; Winifred Fredericks; Jusselyn James Gittens; Hyacinth Golden; and Fredrick Gordon.

Katie Graham; Bernice Graves; Iris Hall; Elizabeth Halyard; Malcolm Halyard; Richard Harris, Sr.; Shirley Harris; Miriam C. Hassell; Helen Hill; and Marcia Hill.

Alberta Holt; Willie Holt; Annie Hubbard; Inez B. Hunt; J. Frank Hunt; Thomas O. Irby; Amanda M. Jackson; Daniel Jackson; Donza James-Frasier; and Jusselyn James-Gittens.

Mabel Jenkins; Joyce E. Jiggetts; Eddie Johnson; Girlene Johnson; Alberta Jones; Delores C. Jones; Evelyn P. Jones; Margaret Jones-Chaplin; Kay B. Jordan; and Betty Keith.

Rosa M. Key; Mabel Kellogg; Florence O. King; Ronald King; Harriet H. Kinebrew; Wade N. Lassiter; Lillie B. Lawrence; Jaynette

Lawson-Jordan; Juanita Lewis; and Lauriano Green.

Priscilla Lucas; Evelyn J. Lymus; Fannie Marcus; Joseph F. Mariner; Willie Belle Mariner; Norva T. S. Matthews; Clarence McDonald; Joseph H. McDowere; Frances McDuffie; and Eleanor McIntosh.

Ruth McKie; Mona McLaughlin; Emma Miller; Arnold Neckles; Molly Neckles; Netty Brown-Nembhard; Oswald Nembhard; Jacqueline Norris; Dorothy Odle; Herbert Oestricher; and Sidney Oestricher.

Jeff Palmer; Bertha Patton; Mildred Peoples; Jasper E. Peyton; Mildred D. Pittman; Alfred Porter; Fannie Porter; Benjamin Pugh; and Earnest Randolph.

Evelyn Randolph; Juanita Randolph; Leona Rhodes; Mary Alice Ridley; Dorothy Rudisel; Rosa Sawyer; Helen Seaberry; Alberta Scott; Janet Small; and Kittie Snead.

Esther Smith; Dorothy Spain; Hazel R. Speer; Sadie Stewart; Marie Sullivan; Gertrude Sumter; Mamie R. Thomas; Lula Turner; Eleanor Warren; and Josephine Washington.

Frances Watkins; Virgie Whitaker; Doris Williams; Julia Williams; Teesdale P. Wilson; Jacqueline Winstead; Patricia Wynn; and Ernest Wynn.

#### HONORING REVEREND DR. REGINALD FLYNN

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to day to honor Reverend Dr. Reginald Flynn as he is installed as the new pastor of Foss Avenue Baptist Church. The Installation Service will take place on Sunday, June 22nd, in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Reverend Dr. Flynn was raised in the Flint area, graduating from Beecher High School in 1984. He attended Kalamazoo Valley Community College and served in the United States Navy. After receiving his honorable discharge he relocated to Columbia SC. He received his bachelor of arts degree in political science from the University of South Carolina. He was the executive assistant at the United Way of South Carolina. He was picked by the South Carolina Department of Social Services and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to coordinate a statewide faith-based foster care and adoption program called South Carolina Families for Kids and he went on to become the recruitment director of the adoption advocacy program, One Church, One Child of South Carolina. He went on to work for IAP Worldwide Services, an international emergency management firm, and for Merck and Company. He is the founder and president of CourTay Properties, LLC, a real estate investment company.

Pastor Flynn received his license to preach the gospel from Reverend Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., at Brookland Baptist Church in Columbia and earned his master of divinity degree from Erskine Theological Seminary. He was ordained by the Gethsemane Baptist Association and has completed pastoral assignments at Beulah Baptist Church, and Temple Zion Baptist Church. He was elected by his colleagues to serve as vice president and principal training instructor for the Mt. Hebron Progressive Association's Congress of Christian

Education. He has also served as the adjunct professor of religious studies at Benedict College. In December 2008 he will receive his doctor of ministry degree in pastoral leadership and Urban Studies from Columbia International University, graduating with honors. Married to First Lady Deloris Flynn, the couple has two children, Courtney and Taylor.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Reverend Dr. Reginald Flynn as he is installed as pastor of Foss Avenue Baptist Church. The sacred and solemn Installation Service is the joining of a pastor and congregation to fulfill God's holy will. May Pastor Flynn and Foss Avenue Baptist Church serve Our Lord, Jesus Christ, for many, many years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE LIEUTENANT MICHAEL L. HILL FROM THE FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Lieutenant Michael L. Hill who faithfully served the residents of the cities of Los Angeles and Fairfield for 36 years.

Prior to becoming a police officer, Lieutenant Hill served as a sleeper fireman with the City of Fairfield beginning in 1974. He worked in various civilian positions for the city before becoming a sworn police officer on September 10, 1979. Lieutenant Hill began his work with the Los Angeles Police Department in April 1982, before returning to the Fairfield Police Department in May 1985.

Lieutenant Hill continued to demonstrate loyalty and dedication to the department earning his promotion to Police Sergeant on August 26, 1988. He served as an inspirational leader for the personnel in Patrol, Investigations, Training and the Professional Standards Unit. His commitment to this position resulted in his being named Manager of the Year for 1996.

His years of service and leadership led to his promotion to Acting Police Lieutenant on May 3, 2002 and then to his formal appointment as Police Lieutenant on October 18, 2002.

Lieutenant Hill will always be remembered and admired for his commitment to the community as well as his dedication as a leader. He is a loyal representative of the law and has made a lasting, positive impact on our cities.

#### THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

#### HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Madam Speaker, unemployment among people with disabilities is a serious matter and one that is all too often overlooked. Many Americans do not know the depth of this crisis—only 35 percent of people with disabilities are able to find jobs. Those people with disabilities who are not as fortunate are left to grapple with numerous obstacles to work and are often not provided the

opportunity to become independent, self-sufficient wage earners.

For almost all Americans, employment focuses on ability. But for people with disabilities, it is often the disability that takes precedence. We all have abilities and as responsible citizens, it is our imperative to apply them for the greater good. When all Americans work, communities will benefit as people with disabilities become self-sufficient, tax-paying citizens. I commend people with disabilities for their tireless efforts to share their abilities in the American workplace despite barriers, and hope that someday the high unemployment rate will be a thing of the past.

I am proud to support a program that helps us reach the goal of employment for all: the AbilityOne Program. The AbilityOne Program provides much-needed employment opportunities by using the purchasing power of the Federal Government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. In this program, people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities have the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits and gain greater independence and quality of life.

In the United States, the program serves nearly 38,000 people with disabilities and generated approximately \$369 million in wages earned and \$1.6 billion in products sold. In Georgia alone, over 900 people with disabilities earned \$8.7 million in wages last year as a result of AbilityOne. I am proud that Georgia's 10th congressional district is home to brand-new AbilityOne contract at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center. The Honorable Charlie was an AbilityOne Congressional Champion during his years in office and I am proud to carry on his tradition of supporting people with disabilities and the fine work they do.

It is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program, its supporters, and its workers for making a difference in unemployment among people with disabilities in this country.

REGARDING THE LAND USE RESTRICTION PROVISION OF H.R. 2963, THE PECHANGA LAND TRANSFER BILL

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on an important piece of legislation that I have authored, H.R. 2963, The Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Land Transfer Act of 2007. This legislation will place 1,178 acres of land currently maintained by the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, into trust for the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians to manage and maintain. These lands are part of the Pechanga tribe's ancestral lands and contain numerous cultural, historical, and religious elements of importance to them.

Specifically, I want to discuss Section 2(h) of the bill, which is entitled "Restricted Use of Transferred Lands."

(h) RESTRICTED USE OF TRANSFERRED LANDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The lands transferred under subsection (a) may be used only for the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural, and wildlife resources thereon.

(2) NO ROADS.—There shall be no roads other than for maintenance purposes constructed on the lands transferred under subsection (a).

When the restrictive language in this section was initially added to H.R. 4908, the original version of the bill I introduced in the 108th Congress, it was at the request of former House Resources Committee Chairman Richard Pombo. It was added during the markup of the bill on September 22, 2004, with the purpose of ensuring that no commercial, casino or gaming related development would take place on the lands designated for transfer within the bill, and that those lands would be maintained as open space for the preservation, protection, and maintenance of the archaeological, cultural and wildlife resources thereon. The development restrictions were added with the assent of representatives of the Pechanga tribal government and myself as author of the legislation.

Since I reintroduced this bill in the 110th Congress, my intent for this section has not changed. In fact, development restrictions within the bill were strengthened further with the addition of a prohibition of the construction of any roads upon the transferred land other than for the purpose of maintenance of archaeological, cultural and wildlife resources.

It is my intention as the author of H.R. 2963 that the legislation prohibit commercial, casino or gaming related construction or development on the lands designated in this bill, and that they be preserved as open space. I believe that the restrictions on the use of transferred lands included in this bill are a clear expression of this intent. Additionally, I have conferred with the Solicitor General's Office of the Department of the Interior who state that the wording of Section 2(h) implements this intent and the land use restrictions are enforceable by the Department of the Interior.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF POLICE OFFICER ANDREW CROSS FROM THE FAIRFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Police Officer Andrew Cross who faithfully served in the California police force since 1980.

Officer Cross's service to our community began when he joined the Seaside Police Department in January 1980. From there, he transitioned to the Monterey Police Department. After 18 years of service to Monterey, Officer Cross came to the Fairfield Police Department in December 2000.

During his time with the Fairfield Police Department, Officer Cross served as a highly regarded active patrol officer.

Officer Cross's commitment to his community was evident on a daily basis. He was a loyal representative of the law enforcement community, admired for his hard work and dedication, and his presence will be missed.

HONORING MR. AUSTIN SIMON

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 9, 2008*

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Austin Simon. A pioneer and man of great distinction, Mr. Simon was the first African-American Postmaster in the 9th Congressional District. We lost our beloved Austin Simon on May 5, 2008. Known as "Si" to his loved ones, Mr. Simon lived a full and vibrant 81 years, and although his presence will be sorely missed among his family and friends, his legacy will continue far into the future.

Austin Simon was born in 1926 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, to Seymour and Mary Simon. Mr. Simon was a retired M.S.C. Postmaster in the Bay Area and was the first African-American to head both the Richmond and Oakland, California offices. The sheer substance of such an incredible life accomplishment attests to Mr. Austin's vitality and energy. He experienced firsthand some of the most important and dynamic moments in the struggles of African-Americans in our country throughout the last century. Mr. Austin was indeed on the frontlines of history, breaking the glass ceiling for generations of African-Americans pursuing careers in the United States Post Office.

In addition to a distinguished career in the postal service, Mr. Simon served his country in the United States Army during World War II. In his community, Mr. Simon participated as an active and committed Mason for more than 50 years and served as the Honorary Grand Master of the Hiram of Tyree Grand Lodge of California. He was also a member of the Stars of Love No. 22 Order of the Eastern Star for 50 years.

Even in his retirement, Mr. Simon was incredibly energetic and proved to be an inspiring role-model throughout his life. Mr. Simon knew the importance of community stewardship and creating lasting relationships with his fellow man. After moving to Las Vegas in 1996, Mr. Simon was quick to become engaged in his new community and search out new ways to contribute to society. In Las Vegas, Mr. Simon became a member of the Alpha Lodge No. 75, which he helped establish into a reputable and impressive organization. He led his fellow Alpha Lodge No. 75 members, dedicating his time and efforts as District Deputy Grand Master.

It is obvious that Mr. Simon's lifelong profession was to help others achieve their dreams and accomplish their goals. A dedicated family man, Mr. Simon balanced his personal, professional, and political dedications so that all who were fortunate enough to know this great man could benefit from his compassion and warmth.

A pillar of strength and historic figure in our community, Mr. Simon will be sorely missed. However, we are thankful for the opportunities he gave us to come together and celebrate the hope and love in our lives. As we say goodbye to him, we have been given yet another opportunity to reflect on the rich past of the African-American community and the tumultuous American century which defined our heritage, diligence, and hopes for the future.

Austin Simon's legacy will surely live on through all who knew him, and all who know